Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Yes.

Adequacy of the supply of medicines.

64. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether the medicines supplied to each of the hospitals and dispensaries of the State during the year 1105, have been found to be quite adequate to meet the demand in each place?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No report to the contrary has been received.

Non-official visitors to the Leper Asylum.

65. **Mr. C. J. Mathew.**—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

1. whether non-official visitors have been appointed by the Government to visit the hospital for lepers; and if so, who are these gentlemen ;

2. whether any one of them has visited: and if so, who all have paid visits during the year 1105 and how many times by each one of them ;

3. whether the non-official visitors have brought to the notice of the Government any case of hardship the lepers may be subject to or whether they have made any suggestion of a constructive nature for any improvement in the general treatment of the lepers by the official world in charge of them ;

4. whether any case of ill-treatment of the lepers by servants been brought to the notice of the Government by anybody?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—Vide answer to question No. 106 (VI) of the Legislative Session of Vrischigam 1101.

2. No one has visited the Asylum in 1105.

3. No.

4. No.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—It is stated here that in the course of the year 1105 no non-official whatsoever visited the Asylum. Has any action been taken or any step taken to see that those non-officials are removed and other non-officials are instituted instead ?

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—No steps have been taken for the reason that the Leper Asylum was soon to be transferred, and one of the agreements is that a body of official and non-official visitors is to be appointed for the Asylum.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—That is to be brought into existence after the transfer of the management of the Adur Leper Asylum. But what about the present Asylum? What is the object of non-official visitors appointed to this Leper Asylum? Is not that object defeated by their not visiting at all?

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Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The object of the non-official body is to go and see that the institution is being worked well and the institution is looked after well. If the non-officials will not go, even then the business will be carried on just as well.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—If the non officials will not go, then another body might as well be appointed to do it. Otherwise the object of the appointment fails.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—The reason why no action was taken was, as I stated, because the proposed transfer of the Asylum was in the air, and we thought that a new body of official and non-official visitors would be then appointed.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—But that will not save the lepers here.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—What are we to do?

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—You must see that others are appointed.

Presidnt.—What Mr. Mathew suggests is, the non-official visitors are appointed for a specific purpose; now we find that purpose is not satisfied by the present body; the only course is to remove them and appoint a new body of non-officials.

Diwan Bahadur Dr. V. Verghese.—It was not so done simply because of this idea of transferring the institution to Adur, and since it is opened at a new centre, the non-official body for this Asylum will not be found convenient. So if the Asylum is transferred to Adur, then we will consider about the appointment of a new body for the Adur Leper Asylum. That is all.

Small-pox at Irinjalakkuda.

66. Mr. A. L. Antony.—Will the Government be pleased to answer the followiag:—1. Whether the Government are aware of the prevalence of small-pox of a virulent type throughout the town of Irinjalakkuda;

2. if so, what steps the Government have taken for the eradication of the contagion from the said town;

3. whether they have provided any contagious disease shed in the town for the segregation of destitute patients;

4. whether they will be pleased to state the number of attacks and deaths in the town on account of small-pox during the past three months;

5. whether the Chief Medical and Sanitary Officer paid any visit to the town during the above period;

6. if the answer to the above is in the affirmative, what steps he has taken in the matter of checking the prevalence of the disease?

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